

State of Utah

Department of Natural Resources

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

JOHN R. BAZA Division Director



JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR. Governor

GARY R. HERBERT

August 9, 2006

Tracy Burnham Castle Valley Stone 3231 North Millcreek Drive Pleasant Grove, Utah 84062

Subject: Deficient Notice of Intention to Commence Small Mining Operations,

Castle Valley Stone, Reef Mine, M0150094, Task #1454, Emery County,

<u>Utah</u>

Dear Mr. Burnham:

The Division has reviewed the referenced Notice of Intention to Commence Small Mining Operations received June 28, 2006, and has the following comments that need to be addressed before the notice can be considered complete.

- 1. Please include the entity number from the Division of Corporations. It appears from their web site that the entity number is 6114450-0160.
- 2. The notice needs to contain two maps, a general location map and an operations map. The Division suggests using the maps that were included in the Castle Valley Stone exploration project notice for the general location map. The operations map should be at a scale of about 1"=200', and it needs to identify the area to be disturbed, pits, overburden piles, topsoil piles, product storage areas, and similar operations areas. This can be a computer-drawn map, or it could be a carefully drawn, scaled sketch map of the site.
- 3. Rule R647-3-107.5 requires that suitable soil be removed and stored in a stable condition where practical. The notice requests a variance from topsoil salvage requirements because there is not much topsoil but says Castle Valley Stone will do the best it can to assure revegetation. The rule and the Division recognize that topsoil may not always be available, but the requirement is to save soil "where practical." For this reason, the variance request needs to be removed from the notice, and you need to salvage and stockpile soil where practical.

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The Division assumes this small mine notice supercedes the Castle Valley Stone exploration notice and that you would like to close the exploration notice. Please confirm whether this is correct.

The State Historic Preservation Office commented that no cultural resource surveys have been conducted in the area and that there are no known cultural resource sites. There is probably a moderate site density. The Division suggests that you consider conducting a cultural resources survey for areas that have yet to be disturbed. Areas where rock art is most likely, i.e. canyon walls and other vertical rock faces, should be avoided. If any cultural resources are discovered during the operation, you need to cease operations immediately and notify the Division and the Division of State History.

The certificate of deposit being held for reclamation of the Castle Valley Stone exploration operation has been increased to \$18,600, and the Division has now received the signed reclamation contract and letter agreement with the bank. Once the deficiencies in the notice have been resolved, the Division will be prepared to issue a notice to conduct mining operations.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have questions about this letter, please contact Paul Baker at 801-538-5261.

Sincerely,

Susan M. White

Mining Program Coordinator Minerals Regulatory Program

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SMW:PBB:pb

cc: John Blake, SITLA

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